

Routes to tour in Germany

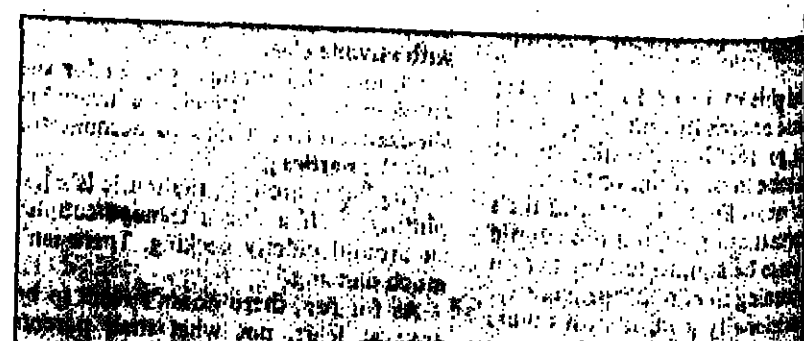
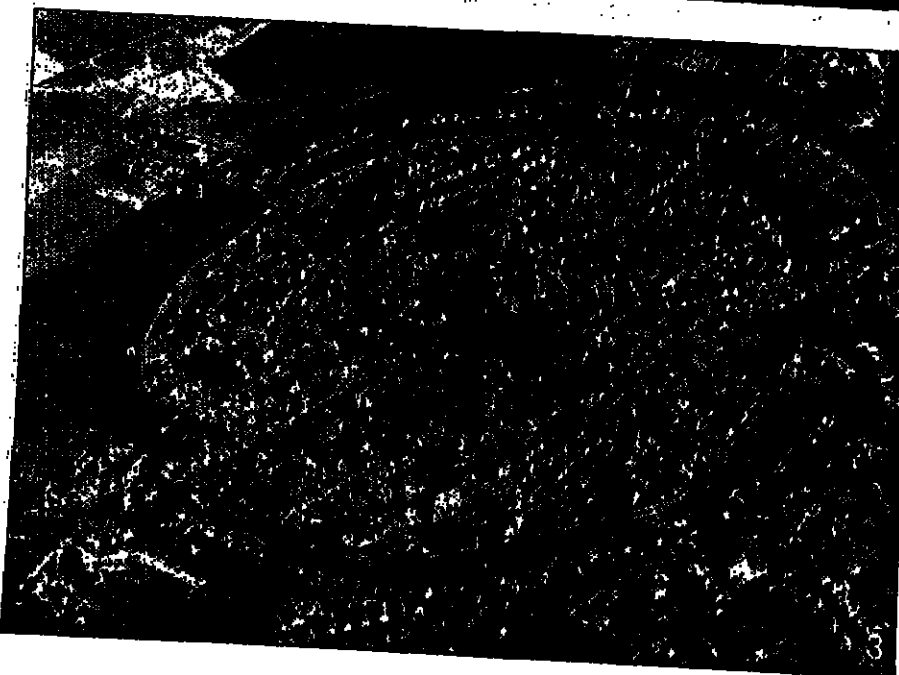
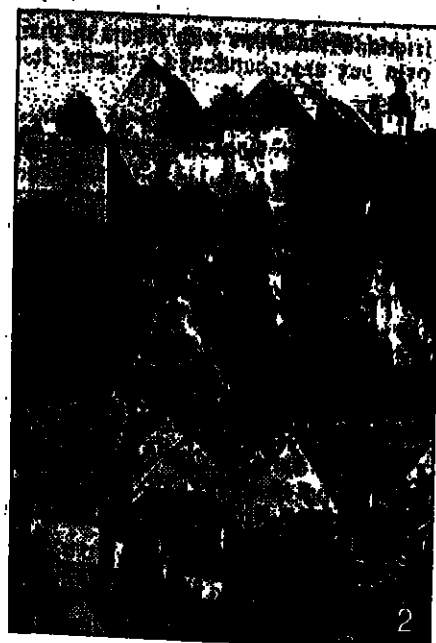
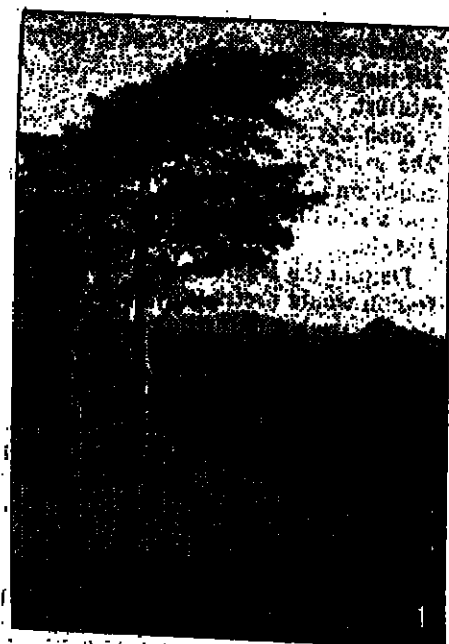
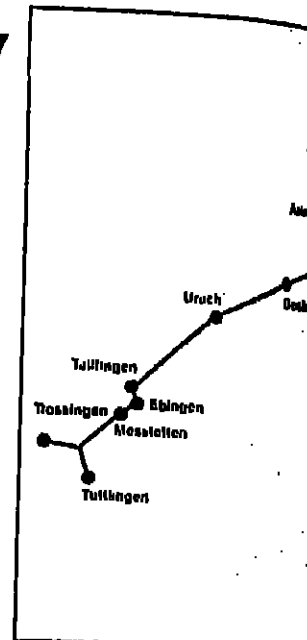
The Swabian Alb Route

German roads will get you there. South of Stuttgart the Swabian Alb runs north-east from the Black Forest. It is a range of hills full of fossilised reminders of prehistory. It has a blustery but healthy climate, so have good walking shoes with you and scale a few heights as you try out some of the 6,250 miles of marked paths. Dense forests, caves full of stalactites and stalagmites, ruined castles and rocks that invite you to clamber will ensure variety.

You will also see what you can't see from a car: rare flowers and plants. The route runs over 125 miles through health resorts and nature reserves, passing Baroque churches, late Gothic and Rococo architecture and Hohenzollern Castle, home of the German Imperial family. Visit Germany and let the Swabian Alb Route be your guide.

- 1 View of the Hegau region, near Tuttlingen
- 2 Heidenheim
- 3 Nördlingen
- 4 Urach
- 5 Hohenzollern Castle

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Beethovenstrasse 69, D-6000 Frankfurt/M.



The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C
ISSN 0016-8858

Bonn, 19 June 1983
Second year - No. 1088 - By air

Kohl's own brand of leadership emerges

When Helmut Kohl took over as Federal Chancellor it looked as if he would have most work to do in domestic affairs, especially in balancing the budget and fighting unemployment.

From his first day in office he was called on to play his part in foreign

policy who were expecting him to take this side of government business as well as his Foreign Minister, Dietrich Genscher, were soon to find this was not to be the case.

Preparing his foreign visits the Chancellor's Office kept a firm hand on him, and Herr Kohl's 9 June government policy statement likewise testified to his own hand.

Foreign and security policy in particular the Chancellor engaged in plain and clear outlines.

A report on the Williamsburg summit talks provided an opportunity of showing the way for his next major visit, which will take him to Moscow.

That he had to say on the eve of his visit to the Soviet capital sounded like a challenge.

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There can be no doubts about France's views on Western security. The country insists on independence as it has been understood since the days of General de Gaulle.

War and peace must not be left to foreign influence. Sovereignty is inviolable.

That was why France withdrew from integrated military command structure of Nato in 1967 (but remained a member of the Atlantic pact).

The French Premier, Pierre Mauroy, outlined this complex situation to a gathering in Paris, and there can be no denying that since President Mitterrand took over, French commitments to Nato have been clearer and readier than they used to be.

This change in reality demands, from the viewpoint of Cartesian logic, closer ties with France's allies. So France now endorses the Nato dual-track decision to which, by virtue of its special position in the alliance, it is not a party.

under a Socialist President of all people, especially when in coalition with the Communist, lies with Nato should be re-emphasised.

There are probably two main reasons, the first being the immediate danger arising from the Soviet Union's modern arms build-up for Western Europe in particular.

George Pompidou and Valérie Giscard d'Estaing stood more aloof, not to mention General de Gaulle, who saw national sovereignty as the crux of his foreign mission.

And again people wonder why

firm warning to the Soviet leaders not to misread the situation or harbour false hopes.

Herr Kohl said his piece on the assumption that it was better to state the German case plainly and unambiguously than cautiously to trade in ifs and buts.

He would be holding his talks in Moscow on the basis of Bonn's firm foundation in the Western community, he said, adding that: "That is precisely what makes us credible in the East."

Unlike his predecessor, Helmut Schmidt, Herr Kohl does not plan to don the mantle of a mediator or an interpreter.

He feels it is enough to outline German interests and to listen carefully to what the Russians have to say.

Yet, he can still imagine that such ties do more than serve the purpose of establishing good-neighbourly relations. They might also benefit the medium-range missile talks.

The Chancellor was equally forthright when it came to the EEC summit in Stuttgart. He left little doubt how arduous the preparations for the summit had been and how slight the prospects of success were.

But he did not prefer, despite the risk of failure in his bid to achieve European success during his chairmanship of the European Council, to revert for safety's sake to vague formulations.

He frankly outlined the problems the European Community currently faces and was particularly scathing at the egoism of some other EEC members.

"I feel," he said, "that we in Europe have grown a little too easy-going politically. We have relied on the EEC functioning automatically."

He had a number of suggestions on



UN Secretary-General in Bonn

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, Perez de Cuellar, made this month his first official visit to the Federal Republic of Germany. He held talks with Bonn Chancellor Helmut Kohl (pictured) and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Subjects discussed included Namibia and disarmament and the Third World. Mr Perez said the generous German cash support had helped United Nations development programmes. (Photo: Sven Simon)

how the Stuttgart summit might yet be a success and how new and specific guidelines might be agreed to accelerate the process of integration.

There could be no mistaking his warning that Bonn would not be increasing its financial contribution to the EEC unless definite progress toward integration could be expected.

His appeal to EEC leaders was a high stake by the Bonn Chancellor. If he failed to carry them with him and the Stuttgart summit falls it would be a personal failure.

On European integration, as the previous day's proceedings of the Bundestag's foreign policy committee had shown, responsible political forces in the ruling coalition and the Opposition still have much in common.

Peter Hopfen
(Bremer Nachrichten, 10 June 1983)

Arms control proposal by Chancellor

Chancellor Kohl's six points on arms control show that he is a man of compromise. He has no objections to negotiations on British or French nuclear weapons; he merely rules them out at the present round of Geneva talks.

This astutely indicates his readiness to allow them to count in future in East-West balance of power equations.

It is a valid point, since the enormous programmed growth in what are now relatively insignificant potentials is the real problem.

Herr Kohl's call on the Soviet Union to reduce the number of its medium-range missile systems is limited to systems aimed at Western Europe.

In the case of missiles stationed in Asia he calls for an embargo, with systems withdrawn from Europe not being transferred there.

The Chancellor thus gives priority to regional, European security over the global balance of power.

This is not only common sense; it is also strictly in accordance with the negotiating concept on which Nato originally agreed.

It formed the basis of the compromise proposals drawn up last summer in Geneva by the chief US and Soviet negotiators.

Unfortunately these proposals were rejected in Washington and Moscow, but they still seem as desirable in Helmut Kohl's eyes as they were in Helmut Schmidt's.

It is remarkable for the Chancellor to

Continued on page 3

Behind French attitudes on security

under a Socialist President of all people, especially when in coalition with the Communist, lies with Nato should be re-emphasised.

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The second reason is at least equally important. It is that the pacifist trend that has been in evidence in several Western countries don't agree with the French security concept.

Indeed, it jeopardises France's consistent interpretation of sovereignty. France's special role in Nato presupposes a North Atlantic pact that is fully intact and an unquestioned defence readiness in all member-countries.

If this readiness appears in any way questionable French sovereignty, which is basically a political claim and does not signify military autonomy, is overshadowed by fresh risks.

That is the point of the criticism of pacifism made by M. Mauroy in his Paris speech. It is made primarily with Germany in mind.

If the Germans were no longer prepared to defend their country it could hardly fail to become a glacié of the Soviet Union.

Herbert Kremp
(Die Welt, 10 June 1983)

WORLD AFFAIRS

Weinberger uses visit to tell allies about revised Pentagon ideas

US Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger's visit to Bonn brought to light a number of points that are important for the future of Western Europe and the Atlantic alliance.

The Americans are in the process of reviewing their global strategic outlook in several major respects.

One is the concept of horizontal escalation such as might occur in South-West Asia or, to put it more clearly, the Gulf.

Starting with the Tehran hostages, the Soviet advance into Afghanistan and the oil crisis as it assumed increasingly alarming proportions the Pentagon has devoted thought to the subject.

Reports were compiled and submitted to the North Atlantic Council in 1981.

They begin with the point made by President Carter that the Gulf was a region of vital interest to the United States and then review the possibilities of averting a conflict by means of suitable precautionary measures.

The basic assumption that underlies the Pentagon studies is that the Soviet Union aims to use force to change the situation in the Gulf and establish a military presence there.

It is the first time there has been a departure, even in strategic thinking, from

the classic doctrine of the Western alliance whereby, in the event of an enemy attack, the defence is to be put up where the attack takes place.

The Pentagon papers, partly published as Congressional reports, reach the conclusion that an attack in the Gulf ought to be answered by military counter-measures in other parts of the world too.

The response could be in Cuba, Korea or even Central Europe. This is the theory behind geographical, or "horizontal" escalation of a clash between the superpowers that occurs outside Europe.

Official admissions may not have been made but Western European governments have been most upset by this linkage of distant conflicts with the establishment of a military backdrop for use at least as a threat in Central Europe.

Opponents of missile modernisation have implied there is a connection between the stationing of new medium-range US missiles in Western Europe and this strategic reappraisal by the Pentagon.

The missiles might thus appear to be offensive weapons and not purely defensive in character. But this inference has always been nonsensical.

A missile attack could never be launched by 108 Pershing 2 missiles so limited in range as to be unable even to reach SS-20 launching facilities in Western Russia.

The Americans have now realised that their 1979/80 Gulf scenario is no longer appropriate, and that was what Mr Weinberger confirmed in Bonn.

In Washington today a military clash between the superpowers in the Gulf is felt to be the most likely form a conflict might take.

There are several reasons why, the first being that Soviet armed forces are grouped in just the same way as they were three-and-a-half years ago, before the invasion of Afghanistan.

Sixty-five per cent of land-based and strategic air force capacity is aimed at targets in Central Europe, 25 per cent at South and East Asia and only five to 10 per cent at areas to the south of Russia, i.e. the Near and Middle East.

Second, as America now sees it, internal conditions in the Eastern Bloc and its economic and military resources rule out a major military advance to the south.

Third, by limiting the scale of their commitment in Afghanistan the Russians are clearly felt to be indicating that they have no intention of going any further.

Their most plausible political strategy in the oil region is in keeping with the oldest formula of Soviet expansionist policy: to encourage social revolutionary movements in this part of the world.

The great unknown quantity in this context is the influence of the compet-

OAU tries to maintain a steady course

The 20th anniversary year of the Organisation of African Unity is overshadowed by a serious crisis. The unity envisaged by the OAU's founding fathers 20 years ago has remained wishful thinking.

Its statutory principles, such as non-intervention and respect for colonial frontiers, have failed to withstand the many local conflicts.

The ongoing clash over West Sahara, which twice stymied the 19th OAU summit in Tripoli, has now beset the third attempt to hold a summit in Addis Ababa.

The dispute over membership for the Saharawi Arab Republic, proclaimed by the Polisario liberation front, as the 31st OAU member-country reflect not just the ethnic problems that drive a wedge between many parts of Africa.

It also reflects the growing contrast between extremist and moderate groups of states and their respective interests in the latest conflict.

While Libya and Algeria are among Polisario's supporters, Morocco lays claims of its own to the former Spanish Sahara and is supported by others.

The breaking strain to which the

ing Islamic revolution that so strikingly effective in Iran. Last but not least, the have realised that their escalation was wildly unrealistic in Europe.

It is not merely that NATO treaty terms and as it sees the

Horizontal escalation in pean theatre would be de other side, just as it was in the Berlin Wall was built, in the Warsaw Pact armies in choslovakia and in 1981 was imposed in Poland.

On all these occasions the was the one to set up a backdrop by massing troops

large-scale manoeuvres, exercises and air force sch So Central Europe could less suitable as a theatre for escalation of whatever kind

sis strikes it is the other the scene in military terms. The new Bonn government

some of the credit for having this point on the American Pentagon view could no uphold.

Washington has no choice locate again the Central global strategic planning the always held by virtue of potential and understanding it must play.

It is that of an extremely region exposed to strong oces in which any idea of bilsure to bear oneself must be What is more, in the event Central Europe needs mon to

tion, not less, including the marked for the purpose.

It now looks as though perts in Washington are re some hesitation, to this clas of the situation.

Fritz Ullrich (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 10 June 1983)

OAU is currently subjected allowed to override the fact first two decades the organi proved useful in many other crises.

It successfully mediated between Morocco and Algeria Ethiopia and Somalia. The OAU that were stationed in Chad at least eased the situation though they may have been resolve it.

The OAU arguably deserves credit for having steadfastly opp bids to transfer the East-West to Africa (even though it may ways have succeeded).

Hans-Georg (Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, 10 June 1983)

The German Tribune

Publisher: Friedrich Naucke, Editor: Hans-Georg, Sub-editor: Birgit Burckert, Georgina Peters, Friedrich Naucke Verlag GmbH, 20 Schillerstrasse, 1000 Berlin 30, Tel. 22 55 14 1, Telex 22 55 14 1.

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The German Tribune is published weekly, except on public holidays. It is available free of charge to subscribers in the German Democratic Republic.

HOME AFFAIRS

Greens face big decisions, aside from the crucial issue of football

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

ometimes politics takes a back seat to sport. That is what happened at a meeting of the Greens in Hanover.

Executive committee delegates met quietly away to get close to the on the last Saturday of the season

whether Hamburg SV or Werder Bremen would win the soccer Bundesliga. Hamburg SV won in a photo finish.

Page 15 - Ed.]

fact so many left that, after a hour discussion, a woman delegate, Marion Maren-Grisebach, pointed out that only women were left. The men all vanished.

At the behaviour of their bearded leaders, also got a telling-off. "It's not possible," asked Maren-Grisebach, "in the face of screaming children, for those who should be looking after their children to actually do so?"

The meeting of the Greens is difficult to other parties. As different as the Greens are from the other parties, that is, right of centre.

It was clear right from the start of this meeting that this problem would not be decided on in Hanover and certainly cannot be eliminated by putting it to the vote. But there was an obvious need for discussion on the issue.

Two contrasting approaches to this issue were presented at the start of the convention: on the one hand, Rudolf Bahro, once a dissident in the GDR; on the other, Rainer Trampert, who bluntly and amid great applause underlined that he is not willing to go along with Bahro's "adventurous strategy" of road-jacking the party to gain support from conservative circles.

The party must do more than just

On the ceiling of the long Niedersachsenhalle a purple balloon can be seen with the words 'Schwerter zu Pflugscharen' (Swords to Ploughshares) on it.

Bahro's idea, which plans a "transition from Black to Green" is nothing new.

In his eyes the hypothetical possibility of a Red-Green reform bloc was buried with the result of the general election in March. Many had not grasped this fact yet.

The SPD and the Unions were bogged down in their ideology of 'Kaputtindustrialisierung' (roughly: overindustrialisation) and the arms race.

The Greens must try and make their peace with the three-quarters conservative majority in society, he said.

The party must do more than just

On the one hand, as one delegate put it, they wish to remain the "party of the future" and not turn into a mere "parliamentary party."

On the other hand, they have to come to terms with problems of parliamentary democracy: structural and rotational difficulties, a rotational principle of representation in the Bundestag proposed.

These "formal" difficulties were left of the discussion in Hanover so that the fundamental issues could be dealt with.

The Greens have to make up their mind whether to stick to their present

expressed understanding for the historically justified Soviet desire for unity.

That ought to help him on his forthcoming visit to Moscow when he reiterates his equally justified criticism of the Soviet arms build-up, warning the West Union to make no mistakes.

But NATO's capacity to act in unison with the Greens would be well advised to the Chancellor's authorisation to make his plea for a compromise.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 10 June 1983)



Seeking the right shade of Green... Thomas Ebermann (left) and Rainer Trampert at the special conference of the Greens.

course, which appeals to the voters left of centre, or whether they should take up Bahro's suggestion and try to gain support within the conservative electorate, that is, right of centre.

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(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 10 June 1983)

It was the head of the CSU, Franz

complain about injustices and offer a concrete alternative.

He called upon those in Hanover to dispute Helmut Kohl's right to refer to Hilderlin.

As Bahro already once wrote in a thesis paper, "The Germans always only had semi-revolutions, but we were once a reforming nation."

"The new social movements, which have now carried the Greens into Parliament, are the harbingers of new radical reforms."

Rainer Trampert, the man from the north of Germany, who like Bahro is a member of the party's national executive committee, spoke of his fears of changing the face of the party just to appeal to conservative voters.

He too wants political success, but the price of such success must be decided on beforehand.

He rejected merely conforming to the existing general consciousness and glossing-over of everyday life.

Trampert warned Bahro against being taken in by the conservative promise of the warmth of the "national community". In times of crisis, the Volksgemeinschaft ideology of the National Socialists is all too readily presented to the people.

Quotes by Helmut Kohl and Adolf Hitler were mentioned side by side. Some of the audience at the back of the hall found it difficult to understand what was going on up front.

One man kept on stroking his dog, another read a leaflet he was handed before he came in.

In-between lists of signatures for Polish prisoners, persons detained who belong to the GDR peace movement, and the Eco-movement in France, almost everything ever published on the Greens by traditional and alternative publishers is on sale.

Gardening Without Using Poisonous Substances is there among posters, postcards, magazines and the Gorbelen Report.

A large book entitled *Save The Whales* competes with *Save The Whales* — both indisputably important tasks for mankind.

Hans-Peter Sattler

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 6 June 1983)

Bahro shows conference that he's too much the theorist

Josef Strauss, who stated that the Greens ought not to be wasting their time in parliaments.

Almost every sentence in Bahro's theses show that he is an out-and-out theoretician, who has spent too much time at his desk, puzzling away at his favourite ideas of a post-industrial society.

Logically consistent, he recommends that the Greens assume the "bankruptcy of production oriented society" and abandon all hopes of co-operation with the "Big Labour Organisations" (SPD and the unions).

In doing so, he overlooks the fact that many of those who voted for the Greens, but also those for whom the label "left-wing" is still not a nasty word, are hoping for precisely that kind of co-operation to prevent any reactionary political trends.

What Bahro means exactly when he talks of moving towards the conservative majority in the population is his own personal secret.

Does he expect the Greens to accept a bit of tightening-up of the demonstra-

tion law, a bit of the tough line against foreigners and inconvenient groups altogether?

Apart from the fact that the CDU-CSU and the FDP have no real reason to support such *Annäherung* on the part of the Greens, such a move would cost the party some of its most active supporters.

In the medium-term, the most important characteristic of an alternative party should not be to seek salvation, particularly intimates of crisis, by shifting into socio-political reverse gear.

Admittedly, the Greens cannot indefinitely avoid fundamental structural decisions on the party's future.

The immediate future will decide whether the existing rotational principle for the Green Bundestag members or the often chaotic relationship between the party's grass roots and the party leadership are ideal.

This entails argument within the party itself.

(Nürnbergischer Nachrichten, 6 June 1983)



Puzzling away... Rudolf Bahro.

(Photo: AP)

If former GDR dissident Rudolf Bahro was really hoping for some kind of specific commitment during the Green's congress, he went about it the wrong way.

His exhortation that the Greens should not just concentrate on the support of society's fringe groups and outsiders but should show more interest in the large, conservative-minded majority in Germany, does seem a bit naive.

It was the head of the CSU, Franz

AP Photo

Amenity cutbacks drawn up as local authority budgets feel the pinch

Germany's municipalities are going to have to cut down their spending even further over the next few years. People will have to sacrifice some of the comforts they are now taking for granted.

A quick dip in the local swimming baths before going to work, for example. In future, most of them will open at 9 a.m. instead of 7 a.m.

Adult education courses will become more expensive and, suddenly, the local libraries are asking readers to pay money to borrow books.

The list of austerity measures is a long one. The German Municipal Authorities' Assembly listed 92 individual items after consulting its members.

The item at the top of the list should make the pay experts in the German Transport and Public Workers' Union (ÖTV), who are currently bargaining over a new pay deal, prick up their ears: personnel cuts.

Of the 80 local authorities covered by the survey, 57 stated that they would not, at least for the time being, be filling the jobs which become vacant, and 45 municipalities will be getting rid of jobs on a more permanent basis.

Sports clubs will be receiving less financial assistance in the way of subsidies in 50 per cent of the towns/cities covered. Every second municipality will be cutting back on road maintenance.

This is more than just a will to save, as shown by the city of Duisburg: in the field of public swimming baths alone, Duisburg will save DM8m by lowering the temperature of the water, limiting the opening hours and thus reducing staff needed.

No fixed rules

There are no fixed stipulations on the extent to which a sports club has to be financially supported or on how many new books the municipal library has to buy each year.

Subsidies for school outings and stays in *Schullandheimen* (country houses used by school classes for short visits) are also voluntary payments. Over half of the municipalities surveyed are planning cuts here.

Pretty soon though all this is not going to be enough. The chairman of the North Rhine-Westphalia Municipal Authorities' Assembly, the town clerk of Neuss, Franz-Josef Schmitt, cannot rule out that people may even lose out on services and benefits to which they are legally entitled. There's just no more money.

As an example, Schmitt refers to travelling expenses for school children, which in North Rhine-Westphalia are paid for by the *Land* (individual federal state) if the children do not live near the school.

This generous gesture was decided on by the *Landtag* (state parliament) in Düsseldorf. In reality, however, the municipalities themselves have to pay for it.

Although the *Land* provided a subsidy linked to the size of the population to cover the services to be rendered by the municipalities within the context of the *Auftragsverwaltung* (administration



PHOTO BY AP/WIDEWORLD

of public contracts), this money has now been "dropped altogether".

This subsidy only covered 45 per cent of the costs beforehand anyway. Admittedly, the municipalities are aware of the fact that the *Land* is planning to increase its investment subsidy. However, they are not willing to accept this as compensation, as this money cannot be used to "cover current spending". The latter field presents the biggest headache for the municipalities.

"If we don't get any help," says the town clerk of Duisburg, Herbert Krämer, "the whole system will collapse". A list compiled by the Municipal Authorities' Assembly shows how hard the municipalities have been hit by the termination of subsidies.

Cologne, the city with the biggest population in North Rhine-Westphalia, received DM52m last year.

The state capital Düsseldorf, was allotted DM31.5m, and the crisis-ridden mining town of Dortmund got DM32.5m.

All independent and dependent administrative districts together received a total of DM450m last year. The absence of this sum of money has left a big gap.

For although the *Land* no longer provides the financial support, it still expects the municipalities to provide the expensive services which they are obliged to do by law.

The missing subsidisation figures virtually coincide with the deficits in those 25 municipalities unable to balance their budgets in 1983: DM501m.

Duisburg tops the list with DM76m, but is outstripped on a per capita basis by Oberhausen and Hagen.

The deficits, therefore, have increased almost threefold within one year. In 1982, only 18 municipalities were in the red with a total deficit of DM172m.

Schmidt, town clerk of Neuss, thus talks of "self-defence" when municipalities consider cutting back expenditure in areas in which they are obliged to pay by law.

"As soon as we reach the stage where borrowing can no longer be justified, we must — law or no law — decide whether things can go on like this". Schmitt says that the municipalities are being gradually drained.

He suspects that not only the economy is being put to the test but the municipalities as well.

However, austerity measures by the municipalities often lead to problems elsewhere. The cutting of special season-tickets for school children for example may induce the pupils to jump on their bikes instead of walk to school.

This means a loss of revenue for the municipal transport services, which in their turn will require additional subsidies.

First of all, however, the municipalities will be trying to get their money by going to court. If this doesn't help, there'll be no option but to declare a state of financial emergency and refuse to render the services to which they are legally bound.

Düsseldorf will probably be staging a

test case against the *Land* of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Until 1984, however, the city elders are not likely to do anything which could further upset the population. District council elections are to be held next year.

The *Land* government in Düsseldorf is sticking to its tough line. This will mean growing deficits.

Interior Minister (of North Rhine-Westphalia), Herbert Schnoor, announced last week: "Our *Land* has used all possibilities of obtaining additional loans. It is not in a position to help the municipalities."

SPD Minister Schnoor took the opportunity to pass the buck. He blamed the whole situation on the CDU/CSU-FDP government in Bonn, which in his opinion had taken the strain off the federal budget at the expense of the municipalities.

The cutback in unemployment money, for example, will lead to a greater number of persons receiving national assistance, which will lead to a further burden on the municipalities.

The municipal elders agree on this point. Bruno Weinberger, executive member of the Municipal Authorities' Assembly Committee, reckons that "Operation 1982", which was geared to relieving the federal budget, has led to an extra DM800m in welfare aid spending for the municipalities.

But there are also critical words for North Rhine-Westphalia. Although this *Land* complains about the financial situation facing the municipalities, it also played a part in developing the legislation in Bonn which has reduced the municipalities to beggary.

Such criticism is not only levelled against the austerity decisions. The state government in Düsseldorf, for example, although initially opposing the removal of selective employment tax, finally agreed to this move.

Since 1980, therefore, this source of income has dried up and the municipalities have not recovered from this blow to this very day.

Hanns Karrenberg and Engelbert Münstermann, both expert advisers to the German Municipal Authorities' Assembly, term the removal of the selective employment tax as one of the most "serious interventions" in trade tax.

But it wasn't the only one. In a study on the Municipal Finances Report of 1983, the two experts list a few more blows to the financial strength of the municipalities:

- The raising of the tax allowances for trading profits in the years 1975, 1978 and 1980 to DM36,000.

- The raising of the tax allowance for trading capital in the years 1978 and 1981 to DM120,000, and

- The introduction of a tax allowance to the effect of DM50,000 for the adding-on of long-term debts to the trading capital tax since 1981.

Bruno Weinberger complains: "Between 1970 and 1981, welfare aid spending had to be increased almost 4% times. The main source of income for the municipalities, the trade tax, on the other hand, was substantially decreased via legislation, five times between 1975 and 1983 alone."

His conclusion: "In line with the motto, might is right, the municipalities

are being asked to help in the *Länder* which are guilty of nothing.

The decisions taken in Bonn encourage the small and medium firms and boost investments in a drastic reduction in the firms liable to pay trade tax less than one third of all firms.

In Duisburg, the figure is a quarter, all the rest are covered by tax allowance provisions.

Town clerk Horbert Krämer says the trade tax is a "tax of income". This development means that the primary sources of income for municipalities are becoming more and more dependent on subsidies from the government or the *Länder*.

At some time in the future, expected in the form of value added tax, he says.

"But we know that will not happen and that's not going to help Krämer points out. He then calls for a reintroduction of the selective employment tax. "This could be tomorrow", he says.

The head of administration in Duisburg tones this statement down, remarking that such a measure is unlikely to be accepted by the FDP and Labour Minister Norbert

The same probably applies to the extension of trade tax to the professions.

The municipalities are ready to run up even more debts in terms with the problems at hand. Weinberger points out that the federal government has had between 1970 and 1982 from DM308.5bn (an increase of 100%).

Borrowing by the *Länder* has even more, from DM186.5bn (580 per cent).

Debt burden

The debt burden facing the municipalities, on the other hand, looks reasonable in comparison: DM186.5bn. Anyone who draws the conclusion that the municipalities should be more confronted by the state law of the municipalities which that the administrative budgets earn the additional debt service.

Former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt called for a change in the budget law in 1977.

Weinberger is glad that such a change was not effected as it would have led to the kind of over-indebtedness practised by German towns in international economic crisis in the 1920s.

What is more, Weinberger asks: "Where would we be if the towns and municipalities had the same kind of borrowing as the federal government and the *Länder*?"

The municipalities found a way of helping themselves. They raised their budget levels for 1982 and 1983 at the level of the 1981 budget.

Admittedly, this had a detrimental effect on the investment expenditure which was thus intensifying the crisis. But the possibilities to save in the administrative budget are used up.

Herbert Krämer on this point we can do now is resort to begging. As an example, he referred to the down the day homes for the unemployed which would save a few hundred marks in the case of each house.

Heinz-Günter K...

THE WORKFORCE

Pension reform needed, and it will be a difficult, unpopular task



PHOTO BY AP/WIDEWORLD

on funds threaten to run short of especially after the turn of the century when even fewer working people will be able to support even more pensioners.

Germany's Christian Democrats to boost the birth rate by financial incentives. Proposals have been submitted by the CDU's social security commission. The experts say higher contributions and lower pensions may be necessary.

but the fact is that basing pensions on the earnings before tax of the working population has grown too expensive.

Disregarding taxation and contributions is not fair either. Working people, who foot the pensions bill, were being asked to pay more and more in contributions.

Pension reform is a tough but indispensable task for the Bonn government in general and the Labour Minister in particular.

The tug-of-war over pension increases gives little idea of the complexity of the problem. Whatever Herr Blum decides on is going to be unpopular.

So Herr Stoltenberg's support for postponing pension rises is intended first and foremost as pressure to get Herr Blum to make savings and reform proposals.

The first consideration is next year, for which not enough cash will always be coming in as matters stand to honour all pension commitments.

If need be the Finance Minister might have to meet the difference from budget funds.

But equally heavy pressure weighs on Herr Blum to submit proposals soon for a long-term reform of the pension scheme.

Pensions must definitely increase more slowly than they have done in the past. Claims that are not based on personal contributions must be cut back.

Trade unionists demonstrate against unemployment

To fight mass unemployment the Common Market summit would need to renounce once and for all protectionism in all its guises and failed subsidies to industries like steel.

The trade union demands for government investment programmes overreach the mark, of course. The European Community is already on the verge of bankruptcy, and would not deficit financing send interest rates soaring again?

That could hardly fail to have an adverse effect on private investment, hitting jobs below the belt again.

Politicians would do well to heed the demands for shorter working hours in one form or another, especially as the unions no longer insist on full wages.

Even if the recovery maintains momentum there seems to be no way in which the EEC will be able to avoid redistributing the amount of work available to ensure full employment.

The PGB's decision no longer to insist on less work for the same pay ought surely to make it easier to arrive at a solution.

The employers can no longer afford to disregard the prospect of readiness to compromise held forth by Herr Breil.

It would be best if the state were to tax pensions. They already tax old people's earnings from investment or property.

There is no sound reason why people should be taxed to pay for communal expenditure until the age of 60, 63 or 65, and then exempted from personal taxation to all intents and purposes.

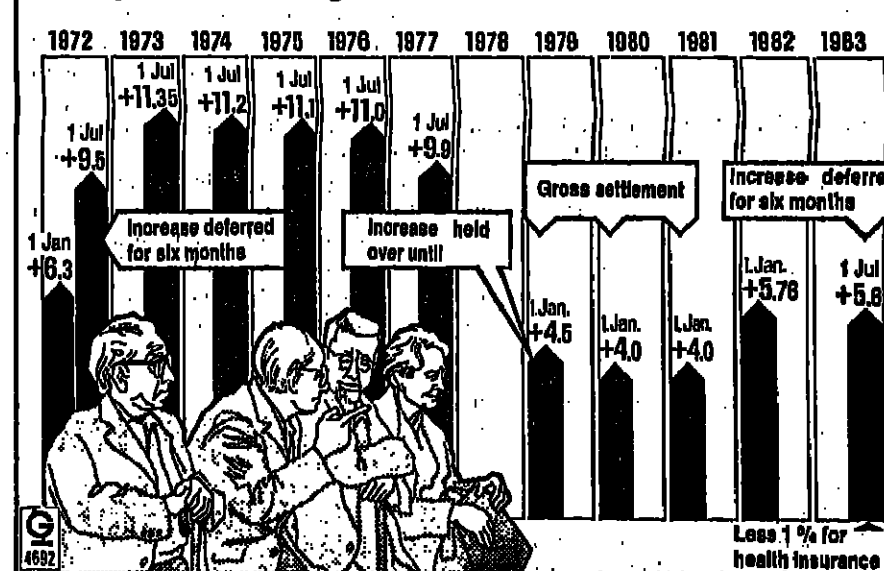
This dilemma will increase in the years to come when more and more people will draw private or company pensions in addition to their old-age pensions and do so from an ever earlier age.

Why should old people be exempted from the basic tenet of income tax law, which is that the more people earn the more they should pay toward the cost of public services?

There must be an adequate tax-free allowance to ensure that the basic necessities of life are clear of the claw-back. The entire pension might be taxed or just part.

It could be taken into account that ordinary pensioners are part of a contributory pension scheme, whereas civil servants have a non-contributory scheme.

How pensions have grown



The monthly unemployment figures are still bad news. In the past, especially when the economy was booming, unemployment used to nose dive dramatically in spring. Not any longer.

The improvement is negligible these days, and it is purely seasonal. The labour market is a permanent problem, with 2.2 million people out of work.

To make the problem doubly difficult there is no prospect of swift solutions. There are no ideas that hold forth the promise of a swift improvement either.

Unemployment is not just cyclical this time round; it is to a large extent structural.

Demographic problems complicate matters. Estimates of an extra half a million prospective breadwinners in the second half of the decade are on the conservative side.

They and the bedrock of today's unemployed seem sure to keep the number at three million or so for years. In other words, unemployment will grow increasingly pressing as a problem.

Civil service pensioners, on the other hand, already pay tax on their pensions. The pension reform must do justice

to the Constitutional Court requirement of comparable treatment for all kinds of provision for old age.

It must also ensure that more funds are raised, which can only be achieved if the Federal and state governments agree to remit much of the extra revenue to the pension funds.

If they refused, the only option would be to change the basis on which pension entitlement is assessed.

It would need to bear in mind that pensions must increase at a slower rate in the years ahead and take into account both the number of contributors and the economic situation.

Slower Increase

But only people who are paid a state pension would be required to shoulder the pension reform burden, so unless suitable provisions were made low pensions would be hit hardest.

If the reform was satisfactory the lengthy tug-of-war would have been worthwhile, and when a decision is taken it must be stood by in good times and bad.

1984 must be the end of the pensions debate for many a long year.

Wolfgang Mauersberg

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 7 June 1983)

No more joy in the spring jobless figures

called for. Hopes of economic recovery solving the problem automatically, as it were, must not be overestimated.

An upswing, and it has been only tentative so far, will not be enough on its own. Entire industries are being swept by the winds of change and need to shed capacity.

Structural change takes time and money. Cash is a scarce commodity and, with the coffers bare, would merely boost inflation.

We run other risks too: old, new and redundancy black spots. Exports are shrinking and threatened by protectionism, and despite the Williamsburg summit interest rates seem to be on the increase worldwide.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 4 June 1983)

The Federal Materials Research Establishment in West Berlin publishes a bulky annual report printed on glossy art paper.

Merely to browse through it is to be shocked from time to time by the thought of how many materials near and far can corrode, explode and collapse.

Lovers of technical jargon should find the report absolutely enthralling. If, that is, they happen to know what a computerised goniometer, gas-chromatographic motor fuel analysis and tests of the decontaminability of surfaces are (not to mention the shearing stability of polymer additives).

Some of the scenarios outlined in the report are tales of horror.

Yet scientists at the research establishment are not out to create panic; they are level-headed technicians who do their arithmetic.

In a swiftly changing world of technology they constantly have to devise new test procedures and testing devices.

The establishment has a payroll of about 1,200, one in four of whom is either a scientist or engineer. It works for the Economic Affairs Ministry in Bonn.

It runs on a budget of over DM100m, but as its head, Dr G. W. Becker, notes, it is growing increasingly difficult to make ends meet at a time when the emphasis is on economy in public spending.

As a general rule little is heard in public about the Berlin research facility, although it recently made headline news by providing part of the proof that Stern magazine's Hitler Diaries were forgeries.

For the experts this particular task was no problem. In a matter of days they were able to show that the cord used in a diary that purported to have been written in 1934 was not available until 1938.

The man-made fibre and optical bleach used in the paper of a diary dated 1941 could not have been available before 1948 at the earliest.

Scientists are still dealing with the collapse of the Berlin Kongresshalle on 21 May 1980. They now know exactly how it happened.

Cork plugs were used to seal gaps in the reinforced concrete. They stored damp and caused the structural steel to corrode.

How is such concealed damage to be spotted in time? Most buildings, the annual report says, are "hostile" to checks.

So the establishment recommends devising procedures by which damage can be identified early.

Corrosion was also found to have been caused by salt spread to clear

RESEARCH

Tales from the corrosion and explosion department

snow, while it also occurred extensively on flat roofs clad in bitumen sheeting.

This finding solved once and for all a longstanding dispute between the manufacturers of bitumen sheeting and galvanised sheet metal.

Anything that has to do with environmental protection, recycling or energy-saving is growing steadily more important for the Berlin research establishment.

The annual report deals in detail with a new kind of corrosion that has been found to affect reinforced concrete structures.

Motorists who use West Berlin's urban autobahn are suffering from this particular blight, which has made it necessary for the authorities to close several slip roads.

Rust has occurred on the back of the supporting walls where they are in contact with the soil, indicating the presence of hitherto unknown corrosion damage.

Europe will have lead-free motor fuel by 1990 at the latest if the British and German governments get their way.

At the next session of the Council of Ministers in Brussels, Bonn Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann will submit for EEC consideration clean air regulations aimed, like a British bid, at the introduction of lead-free fuel.

It is already mandatory in the United States and Japan and could be soon throughout the European Community.

Britain would like to see lead-free fuel in use by 1987, but France and Italy have said that they will be opposing any such bid for the time being.

Lead-free motor fuel can only be welcomed wholeheartedly from an environmental aspect. The 100 million or so motor vehicles in the Common Market release enormous amounts of lead into the atmosphere.

British public opinion has been alarmed by persistent reports that children who grow up in areas where there is heavy traffic have almost toxic levels of lead in their blood.

Lead has also become a problem for many farmers. Grass alongside busy roads can no longer be used as fodder because its lead content is too high.

In motor fuel lead plays an important

The report notes that damage of this kind could affect all reinforced concrete structures that come into contact with the soil.

There may be limits to the tests the establishment is required to carry out but the borderline between tests and materials research is fluid and indistinct.

Technicians are working on materials, especially ceramics, that withstand extremely high temperatures for long periods.

Materials used in heat shields for space craft, for instance, need not be any use for turbines that have to run for a decade. This is a problem that is being looked into in Berlin.

The containers used for intermediate storage of radioactive waste in the Federal Republic of Germany are said to be extremely safe.

The establishment has completed its research work in this sector, providing an answer to one of the most important

Attempt to get a deal on lead-free petrol

part, that of increasing the octane rating and making the engine less likely to pink.

This was an essential prerequisite for high compression, a key feature of modern fuel-miser engines. But environmental qualities are equally important.

Any substantial further reduction in the amount of harmful substances in car exhaust fumes can only be achieved with the aid of catalysts.

The exhaust gases are passed through pipes lined with metallic oxide catalysts that trigger afterburn. But catalysts can only be used with lead-free fuel.

Clean exhausts have their drawbacks. The catalyst costs extra cash and creates extra weight, while lead-free fuel means the compression must be lowered.

As a result performance declines and fuel consumption increases. The oil companies have already announced that lead-free fuel will cost more.

questions arising in connection with planning permission for the storage facilities in Ahnsee.

Tests even simulated a disaster: an aircraft crashing on the pellets, which are made of cast iron.

They are suitable for storing nuclear material for up to 40 years.

Staff have also carried out tests in Gorleben, where radioactive waste is planned to be stored underground. Their brief was to check the stability of the soil to hold back substances.

It was assumed, Dr Becker says, that the salt deposits where the waste were to be stored might be so unlikely though that might be.

The drums would then be leaving the surface soil as the drums tried to prevent radioactive waste from finding their way into the environment of man, flora and fauna.

Tests had shown the soil in the area to be highly resistant to radioactive substances need not be expected ever to leak into the environment.

Hans Henze (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 19 June 1983)

Since all major manufacturers of cars to the United States have known how as regards catalysts.

But what is to be done with used cars? If lead-free fuel is mandatory virtually all modern cars would need converting overnight.

Problems could arise with older and compact models (VW Golf, DM2,000 per car).

How, for that matter, is one to convert cars that have yet to be built? The European Community in lead-free fuel?

The catalyst breaks down the exhaust fumes and converts the car into a clean car.

There can be no doubt that exhaust fumes are a must. But oil has long been available in environmentally unimpeachable fuel.

Tax incentives to persuade motorists to switch to diesel engines would be a solution that was neither complicated nor too long.

It would ease the burden on the environment without increasing consumption.

(Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz)

THE THEATRE

Stein's Faust: a desire to go to hell (granted)

Stein turned into a kind of modern-day mother-figure. This is most obvious in Ernest Hemingway's case, whose succinct narrative is unthinkable without her support.

Her own works — short dramas, "operas", narratives, a complicatedly constructed auto-biography — still haven't been really discovered.

This is underlined by the fact that it has taken so long for her *Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights* to find its way on to the German stage. After all, its operatic libretto deals with the greatest hero in German literature. This is a play in which the "plot" is only just discernible.

To a certain extent, there is the familiar *Faust* cast: the inventor Faust himself; the comparatively restrained swindling devil, Mephisto, who is helped by a snake ("Herr Natter"); Gretchen, who is bitten by the snake (the link to the paradise myth) and who is called "Margarete Ida and Helena Annabel", an allusion to Goethe's *Faust II*.

A few other characters — a "lad", a dog, a man from the sea, a boy and a girl — contrast this version from the original *Faust* and introduce more basic elements. It provides the opportunity for choral and ballet parts.

Opera tailored to atmosphere of a rococo playhouse

rely so well-informed about the run-up to a work of musical drama.

Only recently, the S. Fischer Verlag published *Die Englische Katze, ein Arbeitsbuch 1978-1982* (The English Cat, a Working Diary 1978-1982), in which the author/composer Henze records the general observations, reflections and aphorisms made during the preparation and production of his operatic work.

This workshop report will remain a significant document long after the play itself is no longer performed.

The libretto to this "story for singers and musicians" is based on an epistolary novel by Balzac, *Peines de coeur d'une chatte anglaise*, the illustrations

More than this, it enables a structuring repetition of events, words and sentences. For the organisation of language and its particles is a, if not the objective of Stein's art. In his book *Die neuen Wirklichkeiten* (The New Realities), Günter Block explains: "In-

deed, Gertrude Stein's relationship to words is more material than aesthetic. Her intention was not to conjure up 'associations, but to allow

the words to speak for themselves... Gertrude Stein was in love with vocabulary, sounds, sentences, constructions, childish rhymes which could interweave with her prose..."

Producer Taborski goes even further still in his programme: "Stein denies us the convenience of explanation, an age-old custom in traditional drama, and presents the audience with a disquieting invitation: to feel free to choose the inter-



Allowing words to speak for themselves... Gertrude Stein's *Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights*.

(Photo: Stefan Odry) prelation". Taborski himself decides to interpret freely. What at first appears to be a narrative (or to be more precise, text to an opera and thus a lyrical work) is then subjected to the influence of unbridled theatre.

The wave-like movement varies between a brooding silence and temperamental vivacity.

There is a stronger link than in Continued on page 12.

The main actors and the various social groups are assigned typical motifs and instruments; the sound of which helps the audience understand the course of events more easily.

Henze himself on this point: "The music shows bias, it shows who is liked and who is disliked."

The score leaves no doubt here. For example during the marvellous arioso between Minette and her lover Tom or in the shrill, aggressive sounds for the despised Cat Society for the Protection of Cats, where the forced cacophony often sounds like proper catervauling.

Henze's music seems to be at its most impressive and powerful where its intention is a naturally flowing melody.

"The composer is able to extract flatter and hard sounds, wit and drama, and lyrical sensitivity from the limited orchestra of colours."

This proves his compositional perfection and his successful musical characterisation.

The performance by the orchestra of the Württemberg State Theatre Stuttgart, conducted by the masterly and lively Dennis Russell Davies also deserves praise.

The costumes were designed to fit the milieu and period and added authenticity to the production.

The composer should consider cutting out some of the rather long-winded second part in the interests of a better audience understanding of his work.

Inga Nielsen and Elisabeth Glauser put on a convincing performance as the two cats Minette and Bubette.

Inga Nielsen had to master both bewitchingly soft lyrics and colportage. Martin Fink was a good Lord Puff.

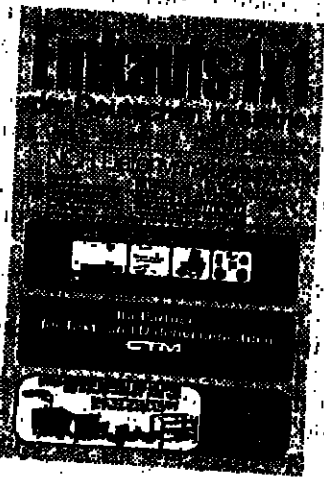
Roland Bracht — a regular guest in Saarbrücken — successfully took on the role of Arnold and Wolfgang Schöne was a loving and lovable Tom.

Albert-Peter Bütz (Saarbrücker Zeitung, 4 June 1983)



"Fabulous parable" ... Henze's *Die Englische Katze*. (Photo: Joachim Schmidtman)

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Anna Seghers, who has died in East Berlin, was as old as the century and would have been 83 on 17 November.

Her death marks the end of a chapter in the history of socialist German writing and of German literature as a whole.

She was the last of the great writers of middle-class origin who joined forces with a working class that itself now no longer exists.

Her parents in Mainz were middle-class Jews and she grew up in a home where the bourgeois traditions of the arts were staunchly upheld.

Schiller was one of the writers she particularly appreciated as a girl. He was soon joined by Dostoyevsky, whose influence is apparent in so many ways in her early work.

She read art history and Sinology at university, and borrowed her nom-de-plume (her real name was Netty Reiling) from Hercules Seghers, a contemporary of Rembrandt's.

The first work she had published as Anna Seghers was already written in a style that was unmistakably her own.

1928 was the year in which she both joined the Communist Party and made a name for herself as a writer with her short novel *Aufstand der Fischer von St. Barbara* (Uprising of the Fishermen of St Barbara).

It was written in a laconic style that

Grass elected chairman of arts academy

Writer Günter Grass has been elected president of the Academy of Arts in West Berlin. He takes over from architect Werner Düttmann, who held the post for nearly 12 years until he died last January.

It is a three-year term. There were several candidates, but Grass is said to have commanded majority support at the first ballot of the 80 members present.

The academy has over 200 members, of whom some live outside Berlin. Grass, 55, has for years lived in Berlin and north Germany.

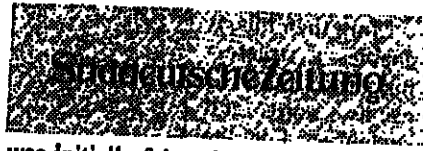
His new vice-president is Berlin sculptor Rolf Szymanski, 54, who was previously head of the academy's fine arts section.

His old job has been taken over by Eberhard Roters, director of the Berlinische Galerie.

dpa
(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 6 June 1983)

LITERATURE

Veteran writer's death closes a chapter



was initially felt to be "manly." It won her the Kleist Prize, one of the most prestigious literary awards in the Weimar Republic.

She played an active part in the work of the Proletarian-Revolutionary Writers' League as a member of which she made the acquaintance of Georg Lukács, whose exact opposite she was to become 10 years later, in exile.

She went into exile as soon as the Nazis came to power. Her novel *Kopf-John* (Head-Money) was one of the first literary reactions to German Fascism.

It tells an impressive and forceful tale of farm life before and immediately after 1933.

In 1934 she was in Austria to study the background of the February uprising. But France, especially Paris, came to mean home for her in exile.

She spent her time sitting writing at café tables in the French capital. Her output included *Die Rettung* (The Rescue), 1937, a novel that testified to the solidarity that was a hallmark of the working-class movement until its destruction.

At congresses held to defend the arts in the 1930s she spoke up in national patriotism for German culture, which faced destruction at the hands of the Third Reich.

Her novel *Das siebte Kreuz* (The Seventh Cross) was arguably the supreme expression of her "love of the Fatherland" (the title of her speech at the 1935 congress in defence of the arts).

In both literary and political terms it was the most important German novel to be written in exile during the Nazi era.

It tells the tale of seven prisoners who escape from a Nazi concentration camp. One is not caught, being finally smuggled out of the country.

It is a tale of hope: hope that Fascism's powers of self-destruction would prove its undoing.

It is an extraordinary tale of the ordinary lives of ordinary people. Everyday life plays a leading part in rescuing the hero, Georg Heisler.

He succeeds in escaping from Ger-

many because a number of different people feel called on to do something to ensure he gets away. They do so without cross-reference, as it were.

Franz Marnet, Heisler's friend, expresses the specific utopia that is included in the novel as follows:

"After it is all over I would still like to be where I am now, but differently. In the same firm, but a different person. To work here for us... and it must all be here."

In the prologue she paints a forceful picture of the Rhenish countryside to which she lays claim despite the homeland mythology of Fascism.

Das siebte Kreuz depicted resistance to the Nazis. It was not a one-sided resistance and was shown in social depth.

The film version, directed by Fred Zinnemann and starring Spencer Tracy, may well have made a lasting mark on the view of Germany held in the United States during the Second World War.

Transit, 1944, was a more personal account of life in exile. It tells the tale of a German worker holed up in Marseilles waiting for a US visa. He eventually stays behind.

In a sense it is the tale of Anna Seghers herself, who only just managed, with her husband and children, to escape the Vichy police.

But late in life she claimed never to have undergone crises, and she was indeed an optimist who survived more than the years of exile in which she emerged as a leading voice from Mexico.

In exile she was busy drawing up plans for a post-war Germany to which she planned to return as soon as she could.

She returned to the Soviet Zone and served the new German state in the making there. She was head of what was to become the GDR Writers' Association from 1952 to 1978.

So she was in her late 70s before she



Parisian café tables and her post-war writing chair... Anna Seghers at workbench... (Photo: Lutz)

retired from a job she took and her post-war writing chair... (Photo: Lutz)

But she failed to equal the she set in exile, and the call to arms for her last especially *Die Entscheidung* (The Decision) and *Das Vertrauen* (The Trust).

Given real life and history in the GDR it was hard to them in the Federal Republic as us chronicles of the new state she wanted and hoped the New Man it was expected.

Later, in the 1970s, she material that called to mind work.

Stories such as *Das weiße Überfahrt* and *Sonderbare* were impressive highlights of writing of which none of the GDR authors would have been.

In terms of art policy they an emancipation from the dogmatic realism and opened up the way in which, for instance, work of Heiner Müller was able to shape.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 1983)

EDUCATION

Dropping birthrate drives secondary schools to bid for pupils

difficult not to write a satire on German school system. One joke the headmasters of our highly-regarded *Gymnasien* (high schools) are to the streets with a lasso to a few more pupils.

There is a growing suspicion that are not that important any more *Gymnasien*. All that matters is that school has pupils.

Parents interested in sending their to a *Gymnasium* (as opposed to *Gesamtschule* or comprehensive) are worriedly informed by the headmaster that they will have to wait and see whether enough children turn up for next year class.

The Education Ministries repeatedly admonish schools against resorting to inadvisable advertising practices.

The whole problem is the result of a dramatic slump in birth rates ever since the end of the sixties.

The recruitment ratio, or as statisticians put it, the family "reproduction ratio", has dropped by almost half in the West.

Which development has led to a situation which could not be more paradoxical.

Whereas the colleges and universities still moaning and groaning about the growing surge of students and are finding it increasingly difficult to fulfil educational and training tasks set without reducing standards in re-

search and teaching, our education system is drying up at grass roots.

Politicians and pressure groups are faced by almost insoluble problems.

Can educational policies simultaneously overcome the problem of overcrowding (in colleges/universities) and shrinkage (in elementary schools)?

Public discussion on education still centres on the labour market problems presented by the fact that the generation born in years in which there were high birth rates is now looking for work.

The concern about a possible surplus of academics must be relaxed by an appreciation of the new problems at the very basis of the educational system.

Too many politicians seek refuge in the popular practice of looking for ideological scapegoats to take the blame for the malaise instead of concentrating on the problems at hand.

It is all too obvious that many find it difficult to accept the fact that the reason for this problem does not lie in misdirected educational policies but in a fateful demographic watershed.

The abrupt change of scenario, however, does cast an informative light on our educational system.

It shows how ill-suited its three-tier system is to cope with the changes required.

The growing competition between the individual schools (and types of

schools) together with the parents' desire to obtain the best possible education for their children may mean that secondary modern schools drop out of the running.

At the same time, efforts by philologists to maintain the achievement-oriented and exclusive character of the *Gymnasien* will be undermined by the increased competition.

The basic law of supply and demand threatens to make irrelevant all the profound debates on the meaning and significance of *Gymnasium* education.

In our qualification-mindedness, its role is reduced to that of an educational institution which provides the most valuable and worthwhile qualification going.

Even up to now, parents have done everything to make sure their children have to opportunity to enjoy the fruits of this system, regardless of any talent or achievement-based reservations.

Attempts by *Gymnasien* to oppose such trends have not been all that successful.

Now that *Gymnasien* have to worry about their very existence and ability to function, their interest in erecting more difficult entrance barriers is likely to wane.

As long as the number of secretaries and assistants depends on the number of pupils, as long as the reformed secondary stage of education needs

enough pupils to maintain its system of grouping pupils into special courses, *Gymnasien* will do their utmost to attract as many children as possible.

The loud complaints by the various education ministries about the relaxed attitude some *Gymnasien* have towards achievement will do nothing to change this.

Society's qualification-mindedness is now relentlessly demanding its price.

The struggle between the school to get their fair share of children has already begun. The prospects for secondary modern schools (*Hauptschule*) aren't too good.

All the set phrases about the alleged equal value of secondary modern education and all the tricks used by politicians in recent years to enhance the status of this school category are worthless in the face of competition to get the best qualifications.

The secondary modern school, for example in Bavaria, doesn't even provide the children with their first public examination (at the age of 15 or 16).

Here, there are only nine years of education, whereas ten years are necessary before the first examination can be taken.

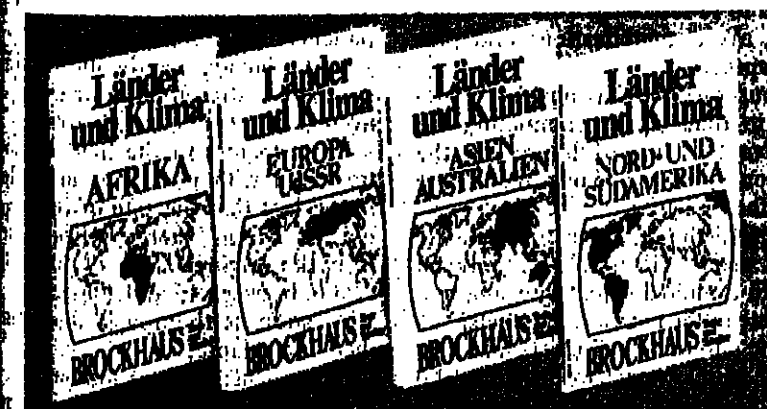
It is not hard to imagine how parents will react in future if they receive a friendly letter from a *Gymnasium* headmaster asking them to consider sending their child to his school.

Is there any way of preventing the secondary modern schools from disintegrating into schools for "the rest," for those who didn't manage to get a place in a *Gymnasium* or who decided for social reasons not to take part in the competition for the best qualifications?

There is a growing conflict between

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Meteorological stations all over the world



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Road to hell

Continued from page 11

Stein's original play to the story of the Creation.

The tree of knowledge of good and evil towers over the playing area between the audience, surrounded by significant forbidden fruit (apples).

Kazuko Watanabe designed the stage-set and the costumes, which range from modern-day to the American pioneer period.

A great deal appears to be highly subjective addition. The humming choir, for example, which creates a mystic atmosphere before the play begins, or the "ballet" scene, where the actors writhe on their seats after Natter bites Margarete.

Sometimes, Tabori introduces his very personal themes, smothering the original text. One example is when the actors consider how to eliminate the "lad" and the dog, thinking up the most horrific torture fantasies.

On the whole, however, Tabori and the actors themselves (Jacobsen as Faust, Klaus Fischer as Mephisto, Silvia Fenz as Margarete, Ursula Höpfner

us Natter, Sandra Markus as the Karl Lauber as the dog, Georg Bode, Klaus Redlin, Renate Fenz put on an exciting and captivating performance.

Their collective acting, often established its own harmonious Theatre between ritual and sensation, between intellectual and sensuality, transposing Stein's poem into vivid images.

Stanley Walden, the man piano, composed his own jazz for the performance.

Although his sound patterns and lodies, inspired by Charles Jimmy Giuffrè and even Beethoven, helped the actor, there was whether it helped bring out the self more clearly. Maybe there was too much singing.

Admittedly, there is an unusual longing by Faust at the end of to go to Hell.

The fact that he is not saved by this kind of Faust's character.

This production in Cologne the wide spectrum of possible this kind of theatre. It was replete of applause at the end.

Rainer Hahn

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 1983)

■ MEDICINE

Slipped discs put German spines out of joint

One in three of all West Germans between the ages of 40 and 70 has a slipped disc, say doctors.

The disorder is in no way a "fashionable complaint". There has always been a high percentage of middle-aged men and women complaining about backache.

In most cases, however, the pains were thought to be rheumatic, and treated accordingly.

Towards the end of the last century progress made in X-ray technology showed that the backaches were due to excessive strain on the intervertebral discs.

Each disc consists of a jelly-like core (nucleus pulposus), enclosed by dense fibrous tissue, which is firmly attached to the bodies of the vertebrae.

They act as shock-absorbers and pre-

vent the individual vertebrae from rubbing against one another during movement of the upper part of the body.

The nucleus pulposus has to stand considerable pressure and tension. Unfortunately, it is not suited for permanent strain as it belongs to the poorly nourished tissues, as do the other joint cartilages and tendons.

Metabolism takes a very long time in the case of the intervertebral discs; this means that signs of strain can occur after quite a short period.

The usual cause is a faulty posture and incorrect lifting or carrying of heavy weights.

A human being's "natural" posture is standing and walking upright. In this position the pressure on the intervertebral discs is about 50 kilograms.

If during work the arms are stretched out, this weight increases by about 25 kilograms.

If the backbone is flexed there is a dynamic strain on the shell of the discs, a strain which is intensified if the person lifts heavy objects.

Persons whose work regularly involves bending forward or carrying heavy weights exert excessive pressure on the jelly-like substance between the vertebrae.

Continued from page 13

the traditional way *Gymnastien* have viewed their own function in society and the competition-oriented approach to obtaining qualifications upon which the whole system of employment and the civil service is based.

Recently, experts spoke of an *Abiturienten* (school-leavers with university entrance qualification) ratio of between 30 and 40 per cent of any one school year. These estimates could quite easily be too low.

Educational policies find themselves facing a dilemma and helpless in their belief that there is still such a thing as a "normal distribution" of the number of pupils among the various types of school according to the individual talents the children may have.

The only way to prevent the dangers of cut-throat competition from completely ruining the concepts of education ministers is by re-thinking these concepts altogether. Otherwise, the official schools policies will become living lies.

The assertion of the "equal value" of the various types of schools is of no use unless the parents can be persuaded that this equality in fact exists.

However, this requires that society bring into accord the noble principle of equality in education and the equality of opportunities actually available following such education.

Malte Buschbeck
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 28 May 1983)

An organisation has been set up to help families in which a heart attack or stroke case has caused need. The first person to receive money was a Berlin housewife and mother. She has three sick children aged 15, 16 and 17, all in wheelchairs and completely helpless.

Last year she suffered a heart attack and the support fund has handed her over a cheque for DM5,000.

The organisation, whose aim is to "fight circulatory disturbance", will be conducting a widespread information campaign this year on the causes and implications of such disturbances.

The organisation patroness, Hanna-Renate Laurien (CDU), Berlin's Senator for the Schools, urgently warned against the risks of smoking, lack of exercise, stress, overweight, high blood

When a stroke or heart attack puts a family in a plight

About 350,000 people die of a heart attack or a stroke each year in the Federal Republic of Germany. This is caused by an infarction (suffocation) of the artery.

One in every two Germans has circulatory problems.

Professor Dirk Loose, chairman of the German Infarct Aid Organisation and expert on circulation complaints emphasised: "The most alarming thing is that the victims of a heart attack are younger each year."

The death rate for victims of corona-

Over the years, the disc is then worn down so much that the slightest movement rubs the vertebrae of the backbone against one another. This leads to backache.

Since the regenerative capacity of the nucleus pulposus is limited, the patient has to avoid excessive strain of the discs over a longer period. Appropriate nourishment is also necessary to strengthen the regenerative capacity.

In all cases, prevention is definitely better than cure. For this reason, many places of work have been structured so as to make sure that the back is kept as straight as possible.

According to industrial medicine stipulations, weights should only be lifted with a "flat back".

Housewives should also take care to that their backs are straight and that they squat to pick up things, tensing their stomach and back muscles at the same time.

This guarantees and even spread of the strain on the discs during lifting and carrying, preventing the wearing down of the sides of the disc.

Persons sitting down or driving a car should also make sure that the lumbar spinal column is supported.

The acquisition of modern office and kitchen chairs serves to protect the intervertebral discs.

Even while seated, an incorrect posture can wear down the discs.

When driving a car attention should be paid to supporting the back with an appropriate backrest.

(Rheinische Post, 2 June 1983)

A certain cure for ulcers still wanted

The medicinal treatment of the ulcer attempts to re-establish a state of equilibrium, avoid complications and prevent relapses.

A group of drugs has now been successful in reducing or eliminating the aggressive factors and improving the protection of the mucous membrane against these factors.

However, the resistance of gastric mucous membrane itself can only be helped to a limited extent by using medicine due to the risk of side effects.

Gastric and duodenal ulcers take between 10 and 15 years to develop. The illness follows a phase-like pattern and in many cases therapy in any one of these phases can lead to speedy relief

and accelerated curing of the ulcer for a high percentage of patients.

This presumes, of course, that the ulcers are relatively uncomplicated. Only rarely does therapy get interrupted because of serious effects.

Nevertheless, as Lambrecht points out, treatment still presents a problem to the therapist, as many patients have at least one relapse.

In Germany, peptic ulcers themselves after about four weeks, average of 50 per cent of cases.

The progress in the field of treatment with medicines at

the fact that the rate of relapse in long-term therapy has fallen from the original range of 40 per cent to between 15 and 20 per cent.

As soon as therapy is discontinued there is a relapse.

Lambrecht: "At the moment there is no ulcer medicine in a position to cure the illness."

(Lübecker Nachrichten)

This helps the general practice get a better idea of where the trouble may lie.

Chairman Loose is hoping for research projects, to be started by members themselves and by the public will also be successful.

In one case, the success of drugs is to be tested in the summer about 1,000 German doctors.

The organisation is also planning to introduce an "anti-smoking gum" which, in line with the model, will only be available on prescription.

It will then present an alternative to the controversial preparation sold at the moment.

F. D. (Die Welt)

More deaf than you ever heard

Fewer than half of 14,500 who took part in a hearing survey conducted by the German Deaf Association passed without difficulty.

This "alarming result" was evidence for the fact that there are many people who can't hear properly, many believe, said a spokesman.

According to a report by the Deaf Opinion Research Institute, four million people are hard of hearing but only one million have a hearing aid.

According to the experts, recognition, treatment and care of the hearing impaired is important.

The problems are not restricted to the case of 14 to 20 per cent of the population who have hearing aids.

There are often learning difficulties and a delay in the development of speech.

In an effort to prevent deafness cannot be reversed, medical aid should already begin during pregnancy.

In this respect, the Green Organisation presented a cost-benefit analysis. A proper early recognition of deafness would cost about DM10 million investment would ultimately save about DM47 million.

(Mannheimer Morgen)

SPORT

Magath boots Hamburg to German, European titles

Felix Magath is a quiet person in the noisy business of association football. He feels uneasy when the fans are

and jubilant they are right now. Magath, Hamburg SV's captain, scored the goal to give his side a 1-0 win over Juventus in the final of the European club championship in Athens.

He then returned home and saw the through to its second Bundesliga championship in a row. They took the goal average on the last day of the season.

Magath's goal against Juventus was a matter with his left foot. Most people thought the Italian side would win.

Even in triumph Magath is not a forget moments of disappointment and humiliation. Sensitive him-

he has always been careful not to overcritical of others.

The game gave me great satisfaction," he nonetheless said after an excellent performance that earned him European acclaim. "It compensated me for what I had been through in the past few months."

His pleasure, while being restrained, added a note of *Schadenfreude*, or pleasure at the discomfort of others, was unusual coming from him.

Everyone knew who he meant. Magath has never felt fairly treated by national team manager Jupp Derwall.

He has been called up 26 times for Germany, Magath has never been allotted more than a role by Derwall.

With Hamburg he masterminded the entire game, whereas Derwall called him out on the left wing where he didn't like it. As a result, he never realised.

He helped to get Germany through to the World Cup in Spain last summer, during the tournament itself he was



Life at the top... Felix Magath.

(Photo: Nordbild)

replaced in the game against Austria and saw the final only as a spectator.

This hit him harder than he may have been prepared to admit to himself. But he was nothing if not consistent; in September he announced his retirement from the national squad.

In February this year he was tempted to make a comeback when Derwall, who has been criticised with increasing harshness with each successive defeat since Spain, grew friendlier.

The Bundesliga after its first 20 years

made constant headlines in his chosen role as the bad guy.

But this outlook was soon apparent in the national squad and made its most abysmal mark in the lacklustre 1982 World Cup game in which Germany beat Austria 1-0.

Football was suddenly a mere matter of arithmetic. The fans merely financed a small group of privileged players who had lost contact with the crowd and all sense of reality.

They threatened to saw off the branch on which they sat (and continue to sit). Gone are the days when soccer stars were something special.

The number of spectators was down again in the 1982/83 season, so there is no call for complacency.

Reducing the number of clubs in the first division may or may not be a good idea. The same is true of proposals to convert clubs into limited companies.

But all concerned could well do with common sense. There are problems gal-

Derwall even paid Hamburg a special visit to persuade Magath to change his mind, but Magath finally decided once and for all against Derwall and against playing for his country.

"I really can't understand Felix at all," the disappointed Derwall said, showing only that he had misunderstood Magath personally and not just as a player.

"With Felix," SV Hamburg manager Ernst Happel says, "the entire environment has to be just right." He appreciates how sensitive Magath is.

Then, but only then, he can be the best mastermind a team could want on the field. A manager, Happel says, needs to give him the feeling that the game will depend on him and him alone. Otherwise Magath seems to be plagued by self-doubt.

He comes from Aschaffenburg. His father was a GI. He has never been able to use his elbow in the game. He has always been vulnerable and subject to variations in performance.

Ernst Kreuz is a former HSV player who is 17 years older than Magath. He used to live next door to the Magaths in Aschaffenburg and remembers how Felix used to spend five or six hours a day on the soccer pitch.

"He was a small kid but extremely smart," Kreuz recalls. "But he could also be extremely sad." Magath played for a local club, then for Saarbrücken before signing for Hamburg in 1976.

Captaining the club to victory in the European Cup must surely be a climax in his career. Where does he go from here?

He answers the question at his home in Quickborn, outside Hamburg, with his wife Stefanie and daughters Janine-Marie-Louise Mirja, 3, and Marie-Therese, 14 months.

"My contract with Hamburg has a year to go," he says. "I will then be 31 and will call it a day in Bundesliga soccer."

He plans to end his football career abroad. He had intended to play in the United States, but he is no longer so sure.

Norbert Scheid
(Hamburger Abendblatt, 28 May 1983)

lore, beginning on the pitch and culminating in accumulated debts totalling DM44m.

Twenty years ago the average Bundesliga player grossed DM20,000 per season. Nowadays he earns roughly 10 times as much.

In 1980 Manfred Kaltz negotiated a contract with SV Hamburg that earned him a basic salary of DM600,000.

But poor or rich, the books can only be balanced by means of extra earnings from advertising on shirts, from TV and from special fixtures.

The season that has just ended emphasised the danger that lurks ahead. Never before has a sponsor wielded such an influence on a change of team manager as at Bayern Munich.

Doubtful business practises by players' managers and investment advisers show that commercialisation has been accompanied by an increase in non-sporting influences.

Optimists may fairly claim that soccer still wields its spell. SV Hamburg may have scraped home as league champions but Werder Bremen, the runners-up, have done the Bundesliga a good turn.

They are an interesting team and have been prepared to run a risk and play a hard game of football. That is what the fans want to see.

dpa
(Central-Anzeiger, Bonn, 2 June 1983)

Breitner, hero antihero, quits football

25 C
858



'I don't want to be a model for people'... Paul Breitner. (Photo: Nordbild)

An ideal is a model of perfection. An idol is a false ideal. Which is the better description of Paul Breitner, 31, who has just retired from Bundesliga soccer?

Breitner of Bayern Munich was the modern soccer pro par excellence. He played football to earn money, not to serve as a model for the folks back home.

Leading sportsmen have often claimed to serve as models for children and young people. Not Breitner. "I Don't Want to be a Model" is the title of one of his books.

Breitner was not a popular hero in the sense that Uwe Seeler of Hamburg was. He more than anyone was the player who began a new era in pro football in the mid-1970s.

He led, others followed. It was an era in which players admitted to being in the game for what they could get out of it — even when they won the accolade of being capped for their country.

The more they took, the more distant they grew from those who gave. They allowed themselves to be cheered (or booed) on the park, but no longer wanted anything to do with the fans who cheered them.

Fritz Walter, who captained his country to World Cup victory in Bern in 1954 for a mere DM2,000, would celebrate a victory in the club bar alongside the fans, just like any other soccer player in his day.

Twenty years later Franz Beckenbauer, who repeated the feat in Munich, earning DM60,000, changed straight into a dinner jacket after one World Cup game and drove to Bayreuth for a Wagner festival opera performance.

The money he earned from football enabled him to gain access to a better class of people: high society where the ordinary fan could not hope even to get a look-in.

The fans only accepted soccer stars' lives of luxury as long as they could afford to finance them. They no longer can.

The stands and terraces are bare and ideals (or idols) such as Paul Breitner are felt to have feet of clay.

The soccer pro is going to have to change, to find his way back to the fans. Otherwise the stuffing will be knocked out of the professional game.

Horst Walter

(Bruttigener Nachrichten, 30 May 1983)